

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 2, with the following amended paragraph:

**STENT WITH IMPROVED DRUG LOADING CAPACITY METHOD OF FORMING A
DRUG ELUTING STENT**

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 21, with the following amended paragraph:

FIG. 3 illustrates the rotary swaging device **200** for profiling a stent **222**. The swaging device **200** includes a die set **210** and a swaging mandrel **220**. The die set **210** illustrated includes two parts, a top portion **212** and a bottom portion **214**. The stent **222** is disposed upon the swaging mandrel **220** before insertion into the swaging die set **210**. The swaging mandrel **220** may include a collar portion **224** ~~(not shown)~~ to prevent the stent **222** from sliding off the mandrel **220** during the profiling process.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 10, with the following amended paragraph:

FIG. 7 illustrates the inside face of bottom portion **214**. The semicircular channel **216** is slightly tapered **215** toward the inside of the die in a funnel like manner to facilitate the entry of the stent into the die and to accommodate the increased diameter of the stent before profiling as compared to the stent diameter after profiling. **FIG. 7** also illustrates the connection means for operably connecting top portion **212** to a bottom portion **214**. Top portion **212** and a bottom portion **214** are connected via a pair of springs (not shown) that are each disposed in spring seats **218**. The springs aid in the translation of the top portion **212** and a bottom portion **214** relative to each other during the profiling process.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 22, with the following amended paragraph:

FIG. 8 illustrates the top view of the bottom portion **314** and **FIG. 9** illustrates a cross section of the bottom portion **314** of a die set similar to the die set **210** used in the profiling process described above. However, the forming surface of the semicircular channel **316** of the bottom portion **314** and top portion (not shown) has been modified to include a plurality of raised indentation forming portions **317**. The indentation forming portions **317** form dimples on the surface of the stent framework when the die set is closed upon a stent positioned on a mandrel that has been inserted into the modified die assembly. The die set can be repeatedly opened, the mandrel with the stent repositioned, and the die set closed in order that the surface of the stent is covered with indentations due to pressing the indentation forming portions onto the surface of the stent. **FIG. 10** illustrates a portion of a stent having undergone the dimple forming process. Stent segment **760** is shown having a plurality of indentation or dimples **770**.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 12, line 16, with the following amended paragraph:

FIG. 11 illustrates another embodiment **500** of the die set in accordance with the present invention. In the embodiment illustrated in **FIGS. 8** and **9**, the stent is profiled in one die set and moved to another die set for dimpling. In the embodiment illustrated in **FIG. 11** a single die set is used. **FIG. 11** illustrates the bottom portion **514** of a two piece die set having a mirror finished portion **540** for profiling the stent and an indentation forming portion **560** for forming the dimples on the stent.